Better Health Together

This electronic newsletter will be produced weekly to provide high-level updates on the work of the DC Innovation office under the State Innovation Model (SIM) grant as DC develops the State Health Innovation Plan (SHIP). We look forward to your input on our activities and milestones as we work to improve healthcare for DC residents.

SIM Work Group Calendar

All Work Group Meetings will be held at 441 4th Street NW-Room 1028

Care Delivery Work Group
March 2, 2016
3:00pm-4:30pm

SIM Advisory Committee Meeting
March 9, 2016
2:00pm-4:00pm

Community Linkages Work Group
March 16, 2016
1:00pm-2:30pm

Payment Models Work Group
March 17, 2016
3:00pm-4:30pm

Quality Metrics Work Group
March 21, 2016
3:000pm-4:30pm

Recent News

Updates from Work Group Meetings

The **Quality Metrics Work Group** met on February 22nd. During the work group, participants reviewed the core measures for Health Homes as mandated by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), and considered other important measures for the District. In addition, participants discussed the infrastructure necessary to promote more coordinated and streamlined reporting of quality measures by providers. This discussion is especially important given CMS' recent work to align core measure sets through the Core Quality Measures Collaborative. Materials and meeting summaries will be posted here.

DHCF Staff & Partners Participate in First IAP Webinar on Supporting Housing Tenancy

DHCF staff and its agency and community partners participated in the first Medicaid Innovation Accelerator Program (IAP) webinar on housing tenancy. This was the first in a series of webinars under the Supporting Housing Tenancy track of the IAP. During the webinar, participants learned about tenancy support services, current providers and funding sources, as well as Medicaid authorities that may cover tenancy support services. The next two webinars, which will provide state examples and discuss implementation planning for supporting housing tenancy, are scheduled in March and April.

DHCF Prepares to Interview Health Care Consumers

Throughout the month of March, DHCF and Navigant Consulting, Inc. interview D.C. residents about their experience in the healthcare system. The information will be collected through one-on-one interviews and focus groups held at health care facilities throughout the District. The findings from the survey research will be used to inform D.C.'s State Innovation Health Plan (SHIP) under SIM.

Announcements

National Safety Net Advancement Center Announces Funding to Address Barriers to Payment and Delivery Reforms

The National Safety Net Advancement Center, a newly-established organization at Arizona State University, is seeking proposals for grant-funded projects aimed at implementing replicable, high-impact solutions to payment and delivery reform barriers. Funding for the opportunity is provided by the **Robert Wood Johnson Foundation**. In addition, the Center is accepting applications for safety net organizations interested in joining one or more virtual learning collaboratives on payment and delivery reform challenges. Eligible applicants include: federally qualified health centers; community mental health centers; public county hospitals; tribal health centers; critical access hospitals; and safety net oral health providers. **Applications are due April 1, 2016**. To learn more about these opportunities, click here.

HRSA Announces Funding for Telehealth Network Grant Program

The Health Resources and Services Administration announced the **Telehealth Network Grant Program** (TNGP), with the objective of demonstrating how telehealth programs and networks can improve access to health care services in rural, frontier, and underserved communities. The TNGP networks are used to expand access to, coordinate, and improve the quality of care services; improve and expand the training of healthcare providers; and/or expand and improve the quality of health information available to health care providers, and patients and their families, for decision making. **Applications are due Friday, April 8th, 2016**. For more information about this funding opportunity, visit the grants.gov website

Events

The **Health Management Associates and Cohn Reznick** are hosting a webinar titled **"Value-Based Payment Readiness: A Self-Assessment Tool for Primary Care Providers, FQHCs, and Behavioral Health Providers."** The webinar will be held on **Thursday, March 3rd at 1pm**. During the webinar, HMA experts Deborah Zahn and Mary Goddeeris, along with Cohn Reznick expert Peter Epp, will demonstrate how the online self-assessment tool can help practices identify their readiness to implement value-based payment models. To register, visit the HMA website.

The **Center on Health Care Effectiveness** is sponsoring a policy forum and live webcast on **Thursday, March 24th at 3pm**. During the event, speakers will present practical strategies from a new report that evaluates primary care transformation initiatives. Expert panelists who represent the perspectives of providers and state and federal governments will also talk about the kind of evidence they need if they are to understand the implications of primary care transformation for both the general population and people with chronic care needs. For more information, see the CHCE event page.

Resources

Bailit Health Releases Briefs on Payment Reforms and Safety Net ACOs

Bailit Health recently released two briefs with support from the State Health and Value Strategies Program and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. One brief, titled "Safety-Net Provider ACOs: Considerations for State Medicaid Purchasers," identifies challenges facing safety-net ACO aspirants and state strategies to support safety-net provider development of ACOs. The other brief, titled "Implementing State Payment Reform Strategies at FQHCs," offers payment reform strategies and considerations for states and FQHCs as more Medicaid programs shift to value-based purchasing.

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If you have comments or suggestions for future newsletters, please contact dc_sim@dc.gov.